

**EASTERN NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

6:00pm, Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Location: St. Maria Goretti, 7300 Crowder Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70127

Executive Board Members:

P – Denotes member present, E – Denotes member excused, A – Denotes member absent, V – vacant position

P	Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President	P	Brian Egana, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
P	Brenda Jackson, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	P	Karol Sanders, Treasurer
E	Ed Blouin, Member At Large	P	Joan Heisser, Member At Large
E	Romona Baudy, Parliamentarian	P	Lydia Leon, Secretary

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheets.

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Meeting was called to order by President, Sylvia Scineaux -Richard at 6.05 p.m. After roll call, we did not have a quorum so this will be an informational meeting only.

**II. Executive Board Members Oath of Office/Swearing In Ceremony**

The new members of the Executive Board took their oath of office administered by Pastor Gary Mack from Franklin Avenue Baptist Church. The new Executive Board members sworn in by were: President-- Sylvia Scineaux –Richard; 1st Vice President – Brian Egana; Treasurer – Karol Sanders; Secretary- Lydia Leon; Member at Large –Joan Heisser. Members not sworn in: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Dr. Brenda Jackson, Ed Blouin, Member at Large and Ramona Baudy, Parliamentarian.

**III. Introduction of Special Guests**

Special guest were Councilman James Gray and State Rep. Wesley Bishop from District 99. Wesley Bishop congratulated ENONAC’S new Executive Board members and said he looks forward to continue working with ENONAC. He said there will be a townhall meeting with Lower 9, Upper 9 and NO East and Gentilly residents on March 5, 2013 at 5:00p.m. (noted on the Agenda) He also said that he sent out emails inviting ENONAC residents to a fundraiser for him at Mandina’s at 3800 Canal St on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 5.00 p.m.

IV. **Approval of Agenda and minutes of January 8, 2013 General Meeting** could not take at this time, as quorum had not been met.

V. The **Treasurer’s Report** was read by Treasurer, Karol Sanders and all were given a copy.

**VI. New Business**

A. President Scineaux-Richard attended a half day seminar on grants and funding. She learned that statistics show the majority of donations to non-profits/community organizations come from individual donations not big corporations. It was stated that the individual communities and residents are expected to financially support their own communities. She expressed hope that the ENO neighborhoods, residents and Commissioners make every effort to donate and support the Commission. It does demonstrate when asking for funds that we believe and support our own mission and community. These donations show that the communities are working and supporting the work of the Commission.

B. ENONAC is planning a **Senior Service Day** which will provide help to seniors with taxes , notarizing documents, medical services, etc . If anyone has other ideas, please let us know. The date of the event has not been finalized.

## **VII. Old Business**

A. ENONAC is planning an “ENO Families Get Fit” event from Crowder and Morrison at St. Maria Goretti church parking lot to the Marina sometime in May, 2013. It will be a Walk-Run and Bike Ride event for the family.

B. Commissioner Heisser commented on the good job the Executive Board did in preparing the Workshop that was held on February 16, 2013, especially with the state representatives presence to help new subdivisions learn how to start a neighborhood association in their subdivisions. She said it was well put together and that the State complimented ENONAC on the great turnout for a Saturday session. This type of meeting can only benefit us going forward.

Corinne said that ENONAC has been asked by the State to do a large training program since we have so many taxing districts. We will need about 75 people to do a citywide training program by ENONAC. Corrine is working to get it together and is training for it.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

**A. HLUZ Committee Report-** CPC meeting is March 11, 2013. The Lake Forest Charter School ZD 20/13 for conditional use is on the list. We are excited about them building the new school at Lake Forest and Wright Blvds. The Design Review/ 210-12 renovation of the existing Multi-Family structure at 6700 Cindy Place is also happening. Kimberly Williamson and Dr. Artie Fletcher, the developers, stated they are not using tax credit financing but using their own money. HLUZ requested that each unit have its own laundry room. Commissioner Kingvalsky said that in the 70-80’s these apartments were very nice. The group is interested in bringing in high end tenants that will help to improve the area. We hope that Tara Lane will follow this company and renovate their property the same way. Scineaux-Richard asked them to consider a park and an area for Senior Citizens in their plans.

Commissioner Cantrell said that Mr. Doucette, the developer that came to talk to us about buying homes in Kenilworth and renovation them to sell has been given 15 properties by NORA in the East to renovate and sell.

Councilman Gray said that when developers come to him he tells them to contact ENONAC. He has told both developers of Cindy Place and Tara Lane to coordinate their properties. Developer that owns Cindy Place also owns Haydel Heights and wants to clean it up. They are trying to get monies to do this on that property. Wal Mart closed on 2/23/13 for the property that they will build their store. Councilman Gray stated that construction will probably start in a short time (probably before the end of March).

## **IX. Announcements**

A. Joe Brown Center will be one of the greatest centers in the world said Councilman Gray, second only to Disney World. He said there are only about 45 people using the Pool at Joe Brown now and we need to have more participation at the facility. The track field needs additional timing equipment and other things to make it ready for track meets and special events. He will use some of his funds and get funding from businesses to get the necessary equipment. We need to find funding to repair other parks in the ENO area.

The community wants to bring back the Nature Center. The residents are asking when will they start to repair it since they have been having the money for such a long time and is in danger of losing the money. Councilman Gray said he has been talking with Ron Forman and he will stay on them to make sure it gets done. The Nature Center will only make Joe Brown even better.

Roland Doucette asked what happened to \$6million that the Hornets gave to build a Hornets Facility in the East. Gray said he would check on that for him. Councilman Gray stated that FEMA said there was \$6.2 billion for flood damage but that it will probably be only \$4 billion. We have spent \$3.2 billion. Why hasn't that money been spent? Councilman Gray said that according to FEMA, no FEMA monies have been spent on other projects. Commissioner Heisser said that \$30million of recovery money was spent on Reinventing the Crescent on the riverfront park.

Roland Doucette said that we need collective support from the City and State. There should be quarterly meetings by representatives with NO East residents so that we can co ordinate with them on the NO East renovations. Councilman Gray said that he would do that in the future.

Commissioner Cantrell asked what was happening with the renovation of the Plaza, the Grand and Kenilworth. Councilman Gray said that the owners of the Plaza do not have the money to renovate it. I asked that the Mayor have the city take over the property so it can be developed by someone. He said that the owner is selling it piece by piece and that needs to stop.

Community Legion Secretary, Leroy Cook expressed to ENONAC that their group wants to support us and come together as one. Scineaux-Richard applauded that support and stated that would certainly make the role of ENONAC efforts more united.

NORA auction of properties (Attorney Brenda Braud) will be held soon. Scineaux-Richard stated that at the "Coffee on your Dime" forum held recently she asked that NORA insure that developers/renovators follow the covenants for the subdivisions when they begin to renovate the properties. An example is that many are closing in garages and the code says there must be off street parking. Many subdivisions per their covenants do not allow overnight parking on the streets. Another problem residents are seeing is that when garages are to the back of the property, they are making them into apartments, another violation of residential code.

#### **X. Adjournment**

Having no further discussions, Commissioner Daste made a motion to adjourn meeting and Commissioner Cantrell seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:45p.m.

Submitted by Lydia Leon (secretary)

March 11, 2013